

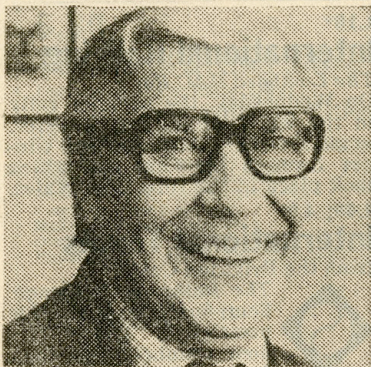
DOCTOR WHO RADIO TIMES NIGHTMARE OF EDEN

ORIGINAL BROADCAST – 24 November to 15 December 1979

PREVIEW – Issue Dated 24-30 November 1979

LETTER – Issue Dated 15-21 December 1979

Barry Took



A MARTIAN landing in Britain this week would, if it watched television or listened to the radio, be somewhat puzzled as to which year it actually was. So much time is taken up by reliving the past that it could be led into thinking it was 1956 if it watched *Suez*, or 1944 if it watched *Secret Army*, or 1915 if it watched *Penmarric*, or 1940 if it caught Radio 4UK's re-run of Evelyn Waugh's *Men at Arms*.

Ironically, even *Play for Today* is concerned with an event of some years back, the Spaghetti House siege. Called *A Hole In Babylon* (Thursday 9.35 BBC1), it is a drama based on the actual events that took place before, during and after the siege. I have a hunch that this is a theme (violence being shown to be both actually and politically a dead end) that will recur frequently in the next few years. In fact we have already seen a fictionalisation of the siege portrayed on television. Violence in retrospect always looks pointless, futile or tragic and even the Second World War, which was more justified than most, now looks rather shabby in places.

● *Secret Army* (Saturday 7.20 BBC1) while frequently outstanding as a piece of drama takes on an air of gloom and despair as, with the common enemy defeated, the different political factions of the victorious, or at least liberated, Belgians, turn on each other. This is an absorbing series being, as far as it's possible to judge, both accurate and truthful. Bernard Hepton as Albert, Angela Richards as Monique and Juliet Hammond-Hill as Natalie deserve nothing but praise. But the Golden Coconut goes to producer Gerard Glaister for the consistent excellence of *Secret Army*.

● Up at the dafter end of the serials department, *Dr Who* starts a new four-parter this week (Saturday 6.0 BBC1). Called *Nightmare of Eden*, it's about two spacecraft which crash while one is semi-materialised, a Continuous

Event Transmuter, hordes of Mandrels (described as revolting mud-formed jungle creatures), and some rotters smuggling a dangerous addictive drug called 'Zip'. Will Dr Who fight off the Mandrels, separate the ships and capture the smugglers? I'm all agog . . . well half agog anyway.

● *Nancy - A Portrait of Lady Astor 1879-1964* (Wednesday 9.55 BBC2) should be fascinating. Nancy Astor was Britain's first woman MP, taking her seat 60 years ago this week. She faced enormous hostility from the hitherto all male Mother of Parliaments, but being tough, witty and rich she won through. Contributors to the programme include Joyce Grenfell who is Nancy Astor's niece, Sir Oswald Mosley, Barbara Castle, Lord Shinwell and Claud Cockburn who coined the phrase 'the Cliveden set' to describe the pro-appeasement attitude of the redoubtable Nancy and her friends.

● This week *The Risk Business* tackles the subject of American unions and the vexed question of closed shops in a programme called *The State of the Unions* (Wednesday 9.25 BBC1). It seems that in the United States of America the 'right to work' means the right not to belong to a union and in fact whole cities actually ban unions from their industries. This, however, does not seem to have created Utopia, as the programme shows, or as indeed the statistics of unemployment in the USA seem to indicate. Volatile stuff, freedom.

● Radio 4UK offers (to me at least) two outstanding programmes this week. *Afternoon Theatre* (Wednesday 3.15 Radio 4UK) brings a first hearing on Radio 4UK of Dennis Potter's play *Alice*, about how Lewis Carroll came to write *Alice In Wonderland*. Originally broadcast in the BBC World Service, it stars George Baker as Professor Dodgson and Heather Bell as Alice.

● *Bird of the Week* (Friday 11.50 am Radio 4UK) is the first of five short programmes (each ten minutes long) on British song birds. This week's bird is the wren (old wartime naval joke: 'Up with the lark, to bed with the wren') and in a week dominated by wars, ancient and modern, it will certainly be good to hear a voice raised not in fear, anger or contempt, but in song.

Barry Took presents *Write Away Sunday* 1.50 BBC1.

Next week:

PREVIEW by Siân Phillips

6.0-6.25

Dr Who

starring **Tom Baker**
in *Nightmare of Eden*

A four-part story by **BOB BAKER**

1: Two ships collide in space – but that is the least of their problems. The Doctor and Romana arrive to discover that something very sinister is happening on board the cruise liner *Empress*.

Rigg.....	DAVID DAKER
Secker.....	STEPHEN JENN
Crewman.....	RICHARD BARNES
Dr Who.....	TOM BAKER
Romana.....	LALLA WARD
Voice of K9.....	DAVID BRIERLEY
Dymond.....	GEOFFREY BATEMAN
Tryst.....	LEWIS FIANDER
Della.....	JENNIFER LONSDALE

Incidental music by **DUDLEY SIMPSON**

Script editor **DOUGLAS ADAMS**

Designer **ROGER CANN**

Producer **GRAHAM WILLIAMS**

Director **ALAN BROMLY**

6.0 Dr Who

starring **Tom Baker**
in *Nightmare of Eden*

A four-part story by **BOB BAKER**

2: What dangers lurk inside the unstable matter zones? The Doctor is threatened on all sides, but by whom?

Dr Who.....	TOM BAKER
Romana.....	LALLA WARD
Rigg.....	DAVID DAKER
Voice of K9.....	DAVID BRIERLEY
Della.....	JENNIFER LONSDALE
Dymond.....	GEOFFREY BATEMAN
Tryst.....	LEWIS FIANDER
Stott.....	BARRY ANDREWS
Fisk.....	GEOFFREY HINSLIFF
Costa.....	PETER CRAZE
Passengers.....	ANNETTE PETERS
	LIONEL SANSBY, PETER ROBERTS
	MAGGIE PETERSEN

Incidental music by **DUDLEY SIMPSON**
Script editor **DOUGLAS ADAMS**
Designer **ROGER CANN**
Producer **GRAHAM WILLIAMS**
Director **ALAN BROMLY**

6.0 pm

Dr Who

starring **Tom Baker**
in *Nightmare of Eden*

A four-part story by **BOB BAKER**

3: The Doctor and Romana brave the terrors of Eden. Which are the greater danger – the Mandrels in the projection or the humans outside?

Dr Who.....	TOM BAKER
Romana.....	LALLA WARD
Dymond.....	GEOFFREY BATEMAN
Fisk.....	GEOFFREY HINSLIFF
Costa.....	PETER CRAZE
Tryst.....	LEWIS FIANDER
Stott.....	BARRY ANDREWS
Rigg.....	DAVID DAKER
Voice of K9.....	DAVID BRIERLEY
Passenger.....	MAGGIE PETERSEN
Crewmen.....	RICHARD BARNES
	SEBASTIAN STRIDE

Incidental music by **DUDLEY SIMPSON**

Script editor **DOUGLAS ADAMS**

Designer **ROGER CANN**

Producer **GRAHAM WILLIAMS**

Director **ALAN BROMLY**

5.55 pm

Dr Who

starring Tom Baker
in Nightmare of Eden

The last of a four-part story

by BOB BAKER

The battle against the Mandrels reaches its climax, but the Doctor has other foes to catch. Will they be unmasked in time?

Romana.....LALLA WARD

Fisk.....GEOFFREY HINSLIFF

Dr Who.....TOM BAKER

Voice of K9.....DAVID BRIERLEY

Dymond.....GEOFFREY BATEMAN

Della.....JENNIFER LONSDALE

Costa.....PETER CRAZE

Tryst.....LEWIS FIANDER

Stott.....BARRY ANDREWS

Crewmen

EDEN PHILLIPS, SEBASTIAN STRIDE

Incidental music by DUDLEY SIMPSON

Script editor DOUGLAS ADAMS

Designer ROGER CANN

Producer GRAHAM WILLIAMS

Director ALAN BROMLY

